

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Please cancel claims 1-8, 10-48, 50, 52 and 53.

Please add new claims 66 – 78.

49. (currently amended) A method acquiring medical information comprising:
- at a same network node:
 - receiving packets comprising medical information sent by a transmitter across a public network;
 - sending acknowledgments of successful transfer to the transmitter;
 - decrypting the packets to reveal an ~~address~~ AE title of a receiving station;
 - converting the medical information to be compliant with the DICOM Standards after the receiving; and,
 - transferring the medical information to the receiving station.
54. (currently amended) Stored in a computer readable format, computer executable instructions which when executed cause a method to be performed, the method comprising:
- recognizing the identity of a receiving station that is to receive medical data;
 - identifying a disassembly structure from the identity of the receiving station ~~structure~~; and,

preparing packets containing the medical data and causing the packets to be sent via a network to the disassembly structure, the preparing comprising attempting to secure the medical data for its transportation over the network by applying to the medical data at least one security technique selected from the group consisting of

- encryption;
- authentication; and,
- key management.

55. (previously presented) The stored computer readable and executable instructions of claim 54 wherein the recognizing comprises recognizing the identity of the receiving station based upon the medical data's content.

56. (currently amended) The stored computer readable and executable instructions of claim 54 wherein the medical data and the identity of the receiving station is to be received by the disassembly structure~~with the identity of the receiving station.~~

57. (previously presented) The stored computer readable and executable instructions of claim 56 wherein the identity of the receiving station comprises an IP network address.

58. (previously presented) The stored computer readable and executable instructions of claim 57 wherein the IP network address is a private IP network address.
59. (previously presented) The stored computer readable and executable instructions of claim 56 wherein the identity of the receiving station comprises an AE title.
60. (previously presented) The stored computer readable and executable instructions of claim 54 wherein the medical data is in a DICOM compatible format prior to the applying.
61. (previously presented) The stored computer readable and executable instructions of claim 54 wherein the applying further comprises applying an IPSec security technique.
62. (previously presented) The stored computer readable and executable instructions of claim 54 wherein the applying further comprises applying an SSL security technique.
63. (previously presented) The stored computer readable instructions of claim 54 wherein the preparing further comprises preparing between 0.1 megabyte and 5.0 megabyte portions of medical data into each of the packets.

64. (previously presented) The stored computer readable instructions of claim 54 where the method further comprises receiving confirmation of completed packet transfers from the disassembly structure within a threshold time.
65. (previously presented) The stored computer readable instructions of claim 64 wherein the method further comprises causing a resend of those portions of the medical data to which no acknowledgments are received within the threshold time.
66. (new) A method, comprising:
- recognizing the identity of a receiving station that is to receive medical data;
 - identifying a disassembly structure from the identity of the receiving station; and,
 - preparing packets containing the medical data and causing the packets to be sent via a network to the disassembly structure, the preparing comprising attempting to secure the medical data for its transportation over the network by applying to the medical data at least one security technique selected from the group consisting of
 - encryption;
 - authentication; and,
 - key management.

67. (new) The method of claim 66 wherein the recognizing comprises recognizing the identity of the receiving station based upon the medical data's content.
68. (new) The method of claim 66 wherein the medical data and the identity of the receiving station is received by the disassembly structure.
69. (new) The method of claim 68 wherein the identity of the receiving station comprises an IP network address.
70. (new) The method of claim 69 wherein the IP network address is a private IP network address.
71. (new) The method of claim 68 wherein the identity of the receiving station comprises an AE title.
72. (new) The method of claim 66 wherein the medical data is in a DICOM compatible format prior to the applying.
73. (new) The method of claim 66 wherein the applying further comprises applying an IPSec security technique.
74. (new) The method of claim 66 wherein the applying further comprises applying an SSL security technique.

75. (new) The method of claim 66 wherein the preparing further comprises preparing between 0.1 megabyte and 5.0 megabyte portions of medical data into each of the packets.
76. (new) The method of claim 66 further comprising receiving confirmation of completed packet transfers from the disassembly structure within a threshold time.
77. (new) The method of claim 76 further comprising causing a resend of those portions of the medical data to which no acknowledgments are received within the threshold time.
78. (new) Stored in a computer readable format, computer executable instructions which when executed cause a method for acquiring medical information to be performed, the method comprising:
- at a same network node:
 - receiving packets comprising medical information sent by a transmitter across a public network;
 - sending acknowledgments of successful transfer to the transmitter;
 - decrypting the packets to reveal an AE title of a receiving station;
 - converting the medical information to be compliant with the DICOM Standards after the receiving; and,
 - transferring the medical information to the receiving station.

COMMENTS

The enclosed is responsive to the Examiner's Final Office Action mailed on March 25, 2004. At the time the Examiner mailed the Final Office Action claims 1-8, 10-50 and 52-64 were pending. In order to place the present application in condition for allowance the Applicant has, by way of the present response: 1) canceled claims 1-8, 10-48, 50, 52 and 53; and, 2) amended claims 49, 54 and 56. The Applicant has also added new claims 66 – 78.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of claims 54 – 65. Claim 54 has been amended to correct a wording defect and claim 56 has been amended to improve its clarity.

Claim 49 has been amended so as to include the substance of claim 50 which the Examiner allowed in the Final Office Action mailed March 25, 2004.

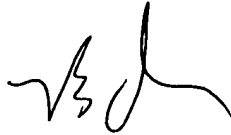
New claims 66 – 78 merely ensure both method and executable instruction coverage for that which has been deemed allowed.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would in any way expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Robert B. O'Rourke at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: _____

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